



**News Release:
For Immediate Release**

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Mayor Racquel Vasquez awards Director of Finance, Mr. Joseph Ware

Lemon Grove, CA - During a City Council Meeting taking place on February 7, 2023, The Honorable Mayor Racquel Vasquez presented the Distinguished Budget Award to the City of Lemon Grove's Director of Finance, Mr. Joseph Ware. The award represents a significant achievement by the City reflecting the commitment of the City Council and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

"On behalf of the Lemon Grove City Council, I would like to congratulate Mr. Ware and his all and mighty staff on receiving this award. Mr. Ware has done an amazing job as Director of Finance in the short time he has been in this position. I am very pleased and proud of Mr. Ware and the rest of our Finance Department for their hard work and dedication to excellence. I know this is the first of many of these achievements." — Racquel Vasquez, Mayor

The Government Finance Officers Association selects award recipients based on the satisfaction of nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. Budget documents must be rated as being proficient in four categories (a Policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communication tool) each consisting of fourteen (14) mandatory criteria, to receive an award.

The Government Finance Officers Association features quarterly updates regarding budget documents and recipients via their website. Through their efforts to pioneer quality budgeting, award recipients have provided an excellent example for other governments throughout North America. Currently, there are over 1700 participants in the Budget Awards Program.

About the City of Lemon Grove

Incorporated in 1977, the City of Lemon Grove, CA is just a few miles east of downtown San Diego, boasting a diverse mix of more than 26,000 residents who enjoy all the charm of small-town living with the conveniences of big city proximity. Lemon Grove has an array of community benefits including competitive housing prices, strong schools, local parks, an eclectic blend of shopping and dining options, and a near-perfect climate. The City is dedicated to engaging the community through special events and outreach opportunities, keeping open lines of communication between the City and its residents, focusing on investments in infrastructure improvements, and providing quality of life enhancements.

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